GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:480
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
AREA UNDER AGRICULTURAL CROPS
MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL;SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the area under agricultural crops has been reduced due to thrust on cash crop production and use of fertilizers over the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of non-agricultural activity for which the agricultural land is being increasingly used;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to enact a law to ban the use of agricultural land for non-agricultural activities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)to(c): The Net Area Sown (NAS) under agriculture has remained almost constant ataround 142 million hectares during last few years. The year-wise NAS under agriculture is given as under:

(Area in million hectares)

Year	Net Area Sown
1992-93	142.72
1993-94+	142.34
1994-95+	142.96
1995-96+	142.20
1996-97+	142.81
1997-98+	142.02

+ Provisional

(d)&(e): The Government has issued 19 point National Land Use Policy Outline andAction Points to the States for implementation. The action points include, inter-alia, restructuring of urban policy in such a manner as to ensure that highly productive land is not taken away.